

# **PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016**

MAYFLOWER ROOM, TOWN HALL

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 11 Lincoln Street.

Present:        Kenneth A. Tavares, Chairman  
                  Anthony F. Provenzano, Vice Chairman  
                  John T. Mahoney, Jr.  
                  Sean P. Page  
                  David Malaguti

                  Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager  
                  Derek Brindisi, Assistant Town Manager

## **7:02PM - CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Tavares called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **7:05PM - TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Ms. Arrighi spoke about the Simes House and thanked Tom Finnegan, from Ted Gentry Associates, the project manager. She mentioned that Town Meeting reduced the budget for the buildout by approximately \$900,000 and in an effort to meet that fiscal obligation, she has approved Mr. Finnegan's recommendation that the square footage be reduced, the basement option for the elevator be eliminated, and the large kitchen must be reduced to a kitchenette. She assured the Selectmen that the basic component of what was outlined in the article will remain; that is the third floor housing options, the second floor commercial rental space, and the first floor community space. She indicated that the long debated commercial kitchen just cannot be realized on this budget without further appropriation at Town Meeting. She also stated the Town wants this project to be a success for Manomet and everyone had hoped not to eliminate any of the possibilities that were put forth by the Community Preservation Committee, including the functional kitchen, particularly as they think that is a key component in the long term viability of the renting of the property. She added that it was a difficult decision and was based solely on staying within budget and listening to the professionals who indicate how to achieve that fiscal goal. She added that the Charter dictates that Building Committee oversees this project, thus this issue/decision will be discussed and debated at the next Building Committee meeting; she just wanted the Selectmen to be informed in the event that they are opposed to this direction. Finally, she stated that there were other options and these were: put the project on hold and pursue more funding or stop the project and consider selling/leasing building.

Selectman Mahoney encouraged the Town Manager to find resolution to the conflict about this project.

For other items, Ms. Arrighi also announced a \$20,000 nrcan grant received by Plymouth, provided the Board with the Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barren Alliance annual report; announced the statistics produced by the acoustic receivers (shark buoys) during the first season of their use; and stated that she appointed Chris Badot to the position of Selectmen's Assistant and he would start the following week.

Ms. Arrighi then asked the Selectmen to continue the Local Declaration of Emergency that they had approved on December 23, 2015 due to the continued issues with the broken sewer main that resulted in temporary disruptions within the Town's sanitary sewer system and due to the nature and duration of the break in this critical infrastructure.

On a motion by Mr. Page, seconded by Mr. Provenzano, the Selectmen voted to approved the action and authorize the Chairman to sign the Local Declaration of Emergency. 5/0

#### **7:20PM - PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob Betters extended invitations to the Valentines Gala for Saturday, February 6, 2016 to benefit the Education Foundation. He remarked that the past events had been very successful.

Steve Lyden stated that the school budget was approved while the police and fire requested budgets were being cut by the Board of Selectmen. He expressed frustration that they have to give up services or needs, yet the School does not. He remarked that it was disproportionately unfair, particularly as their enrollment is down over 1000 students.

#### **7:25PM – PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE**

Town Planner, Robin Carver, conducted a Project Arts initiative presentation. The project would raise awareness of local artists and the art community by displaying artist decorated furniture pieces, purchased through funding and/or services provided by the Visitor's Services Board and the Office of Community Development and the Plymouth High School. These pieces, such as Adirondack chairs, picnic tables, and benches would provide seating and visual intrigue in identified areas throughout the Town. She further explained that this is a national public arts movement and can be seen in Hyannis, Salem, Chatham, Pittsfield, and Newburyport. An Art Selection Committee would select the local artists and the project supports the Plymouth Bay Cultural District and enhances the overall outdoor experience.

Chairman Tavares thanked her for her work and presentation. He suggested that someone from the Town officials sit on that Artist Committee as the work would be displayed on Town Property. He also requested that some regulations be included with the project scope, such as general guidelines for how long that item will be displayed (such as seasonally) and removal procedures if it is damaged or just time to change that art display to something else. He also requested that the Brewster Garden location be removed from the list as something there could detract from all the activities that take place on that site.

The Town Manager remarked that they would work on these guidelines and bring it back to the Selectmen for a formal vote once they are able to review those rules and procedures.

#### **7:45PM – LICENSES AND ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES**

On a motion by Selectman Provenzano, seconded by Selectman Page, the Board voted to terminate the lease with Sandra Cotti for 132 Warren Avenue effective upon the date of sale of the business named Sandy's at Plymouth Beach from Sandra Cotti to Lynruba Corporation. 5/0

On a motion by Selectman Provenzano, seconded by Selectman Malaguti, the Board voted to approve and execute all documents pertaining to the approval of a lease with Lynruba Corp. for use of town property at 132 Warren Avenue. 5/0

On a motion by Selectman Page, seconded by Selectman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the change of manager for Red Robin. 5/0

On a motion by Selectman Provenzano, seconded by Selectman Malaguti, the Board voted to approve a One day wine and malt for Memorial Hall. 5/0

On a motion by Selectman Page, seconded by Selectman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve a One day wine and malt license for Shops at 5. 5/0

On a motion by Selectman Mahoney, seconded by Selectman Malaguti, the Board voted to approve a common victualler for Friendly's Restaurant. 5/0

#### **7:50PM – FY2017 BUDGET DELIBERATION**

Selectman Page made a motion to approve the police department budget as presented last week by the Town Manager. Selectman Provenzano seconded. Mr. Page said that there was no price on public safety and all new positions needed should be approved. Mr. Provenzano said that in budget deliberations, the Board is faced with decisions that have been made over a long period of time and though the town has stepped up for the schools, it comes at a cost. The police department staffing request is reasonable, however, the issues being faced currently are financially difficult and he could not support them at this time. In addition, he added, the Board has supported recent staffing increases in that department such as the street crimes unit. Selectman Provenzano made a motion to amend to reduce the staffing additions to 4 officers. Mr. Malaguti seconded the amended motion. Selectman Mahoney commented that public safety staffing is not being cut, the Board is just looking at incremental increases as they deal with other critical issues. Mr. Tavares commented that amending the request is not easy as he is very supportive of the department, however, his concern for the fiscal uncertainty is very real and must be considered as he contemplates citizens' concerns over tax bills. He did remark that he asked the School Committee to refrain from bringing forward any new initiatives over the next couple of years. Mr. Malaguti concurred and remarked that this Board is criticized over taxes, but that same criticism does not go to the School Committee where there has been manpower added. Mr. Malaguti said that he supports the I/T staff addition in the Fire Dept. as well as the mechanic and that is all he can agree to at this time. He also hoped that releasing dispatch to the police can free up some men. Mr. Chairman asked for the vote on the motion to amend that was on the floor - 3 in favor, Mr. Page and Mr. Mahoney in opposition. Mr. Tavares then asked for a vote on the amended main motion -

3 in favor, Mr. Page and Mr. Mahoney in opposition. The motion carries and the Selectmen's recommended budget will increase the Police budget for funding sufficient for four new police positions.

Mr. Page then stated that he would abstain from the vote on the Fire Department budget. On a motion by Selectman Provenzano, seconded by Mr. Malaguti, the Board voted to recommend a budget that will increase the Fire budget for funding sufficient for the addition of one mechanic and one I/T position. 4/0

Selectman Page stated that in terms of the DPW budget, he could not support the Town spending \$100,000 on outside contractors for public restroom cleaning on town owned locations. For that reason, he made a motion to add funds to support two entry level positions/custodians to the DPW budget and that these positions would work in other areas when the public restrooms were not open to compliment other tasks throughout the rest of the year. Mr. Mahoney seconded the motion. On a question to Mr. Beder by Mr. Mahoney, Mr. Beder stated that they still have six vacancies in Highway and he does not believe two bodies would be sufficient to clean restrooms at all these proposed locations. He added that the current bid to a private contractor extends for only one year at a time. Chairman Tavares asked for a vote on the motion – 3 in favor, Mr. Malaguti and Mr. Provenzano in opposition. The motion carries and the Selectmen's recommended budget will level fund custodial services from last year's amount and increase the DPW appropriate line item by funding sufficient for two entry level custodial positions.

#### **8:15pm – COMMITTEE LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES**

Selectman Malaguti stated that he met with the Roads Advisory Committee last week and they heard the presentation on the 135 million dollar cost associated with bringing the Town roads up to good condition. The Roads Advisory Committee approved moving forward with that initiative and will be recommending it to the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Page stated that the Gatra numbers of ridership have increased and the Town is second in ridership only to Taunton.

#### **8:18PM - ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Selectman Page, seconded by Selectman Malaguti, the Board voted to adjourn at 8:18 pm.

Recorded by: Melissa Arrighi  
*Town Manager*